

**STATE OF INDIANA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

**PUBLIC NOTICE NO. 2023-05-IN0061077- RD**

**DATE OF NOTICE: MAY 15, 2023**

**RESPONSE DUE DATE: JUNE 15, 2023**

**The IDEM Office of Water Quality proposes the following NPDES DRAFT PERMIT:**

**MAJOR - Modification**

United States Steel Grand Calumet River Sediment Remediation Passive Dewatering Facility, NPDES Permit No. IN0061077, located at 2301 Juice Road, Gary, IN (LAKE COUNTY). This major industrial facility is a steel manufacturer. The permittee requested a modification to update the definition of the Summer and Winter monitoring periods in the current NPDES permit which was renewed in 2022. The proposed modified definition of these monitoring periods is consistent with the 2012 and 2017 NPDES permit renewals. Permit Manager: Matt Warrener, (317) 233-0798 or via email at MWarrene@idem.IN.gov. Posted online at <https://www.in.gov/idem/public-notices/>.

---

**PROCEDURES TO FILE A RESPONSE**

You are hereby notified of the availability of a 30-day public comment period regarding the referenced draft NPDES permit, in accordance with 327 IAC 5-3-9. The NPDES application and draft permit documents are available for inspection at IDEM, Office of Water Quality, Indiana Government Center North - Room 1255, 100 N. Senate Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46204 from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., Monday thru Friday, (copies 10¢ per page). The Draft Permit is posted online on the above-referenced IDEM public notice web page. A courtesy copy has also been sent via email to the local County Health Department. Please tell others whom you think would be interested in this matter. For more information about public participation including your rights & responsibilities, please see <https://www.in.gov/idem/public-notices/>. You may want to consult our online Citizens' Guide to IDEM: <https://www.in.gov/idem/resources/citizens-guide-to-idem/>.

**Comments:** The proposed decision to issue a permit is tentative. Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the draft permit. All comments must be delivered to IDEM or postmarked no later than the Response Due Date noted to be considered in the decision to issue a final permit. Deliver or mail all requests or comments to the attention of the Permit Manager at the above address.

**To Request a Public Hearing:** Any person may request a public hearing. A written request must be submitted to the above address on or before the Response Due Date. The written request shall include: the name and address of the person making the request, the interest of the person making the request, persons represented by the person making the request, the reason for the request and the issues proposed for consideration at the hearing. The Department will determine whether to hold a public hearing based upon the comments and the rationale for the request. Public Notice of such a hearing will be circulated in at least one newspaper in the geographical area of the discharge and to those persons submitting comments and/or on the mailing list at least 30 days prior to the hearing.



# INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

*We Protect Hoosiers and Our Environment.*

100 N. Senate Avenue • Indianapolis, IN 46204  
(800) 451-6027 • (317) 232-8603 • [www.idem.IN.gov](http://www.idem.IN.gov)

**Eric J. Holcomb**  
Governor

**Brian C. Rockensuess**  
Commissioner

May 15, 2023

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Mr. Cliff Barnett, Environmental Engineer  
Unites States Steel Corporation Grand Calumet River  
Sediment Remediation Passive Dewatering Facility  
1 N Broadway Street  
Gary, Indiana 46402

Dear Mr. Barnett:

Re: NPDES Permit No. IN0061077  
Draft Permit Modification  
US Steel Corporation Grand Calumet River  
Sediment Remediation Passive Dewatering Facility  
Gary, IN - Lake County

Your request for a permit modification has been reviewed and processed in accordance with rules adopted under 327 IAC 5. Enclosed is a copy of the draft permit modification.

Pursuant to IC 13-15-5-1, IDEM will publish the draft permit document online at <https://www.in.gov/ide/public-notices/>. Additional information on public participation can be found in the "Citizens' Guide to IDEM", available at <https://www.in.gov/ide/resources/citizens-guide-to-ide/>. A 30-day comment period is available to solicit input from interested parties, including the public.

Please review this draft permit modification and associated documents carefully to become familiar with the proposed terms and conditions. Comments concerning the draft permit modification should be submitted in accordance with the procedure outlined in the enclosed public notice form. We suggest that you meet with us to discuss major concerns or objections you may have with the draft permit modification.

Questions concerning this draft permit modification may be addressed to Matt Warren of my staff, at 317-233-0798 or [mwarrene@idem.in.gov](mailto:mwarrene@idem.in.gov).

Sincerely,

Richard Hamblin, Chief  
Industrial NPDES Permits Section  
Office of Water Quality

Enclosures

cc: Lake County Health Department  
Mr. Eric Williams, Environmental Affairs Manager – Water, US Steel Corporation  
Mr. Nick Ream, IDEM Inspector  
Chief, Permits Section, U.S. EPA, Region 5



STATE OF INDIANA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT  
AMENDED AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE UNDER THE  
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

In compliance with the provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq., the "Clean Water Act" or "CWA"), and IDEM's permitting authority under IC 13-15,

UNITED STATES STEEL CORPORATION  
GRAND CALUMET RIVER SEDIMENT REMEDIATION  
PASSIVE DEWATERING FACILITY

is authorized to discharge from the dewatering and treatment facility located at 2301 Juice Road, Gary, Indiana, to receiving waters identified as East Branch Grand Caumet River in accordance with effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, and other conditions set forth in Parts I and II hereof.

The permit, as issued on June, 30, 2022 is hereby amended, as contained herein. The amended provisions shall become effective \_\_\_\_\_. All terms and conditions of the permit not modified at this time remain in effect. Further, any existing condition or term affected by the amendments will remain in effect until the amended provisions become effective. This permit may be revoked for the nonpayment of applicable fees in accordance with IC 13-18-20.

This permit and the authorization to discharge, as amended, shall expire at midnight June, 30, 2027. In order to receive authorization to discharge beyond the date of expiration, the permittee shall submit such information and forms as are required by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management no later than 180 days prior to the date of expiration.

Issued on \_\_\_\_\_ for the Indiana Department of Environmental Management.

Jerry Dittmer, Chief  
Permits Branch  
Office of Water Quality

[9] Mercury monitoring shall be conducted 6 X annually in the months of February, April, June, August, October, and December of each year for the term of the permit using EPA Test Method 1631, Revision E.

[10] Samples shall be taken once at any time during each of the four annual quarters:

- (A) January-February-March;
- (B) April-May-June;
- (C) July-August-September; and
- (D) October-November-December.

For quarterly monitoring, in the first quarter for example, the permittee may conduct sampling within the month of January, February or March. The result from this reporting timeframe shall be reported on the March DMR, regardless of which of the months within the quarter the sample was taken.

[11] Summer limitations apply from July 1<sup>st</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup>. Winter limitations apply from October 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>.

[12] The lead GAC column influent and effluent Total Organic Carbon (TOC) will be monitored on a daily basis and used as an indication of proper GAC operations. This data will be made available at inspections and/or submitted to IDEM upon request.

[13] All additional monitoring results that are required by EPA to show RCRA compatibility of remediation wastes prior to introduction into the CAMU must also be submitted to IDEM. Copying IDEM to the attention of the Industrial Permits Section on such correspondence to EPA is sufficient.

[14] Flow shall be measured on the same day(s) as any other parameters in Table I.A.1. of this Permit.

[15] The permittee is required to notify IDEM, Office of Water Quality, thirty (30) days in advance of any installation of a treatment system. The permittee shall also follow applicable notification requirements in Part II.B.14 of the permit which related to commencement of operation after installation.



**National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System  
Fact Sheet for  
United States Steel Corporation Grand Calumet River  
Sediment Remediation Project Passive Dewatering Facility  
Draft modification: May 2023  
Final modification: TBD**

**Indiana Department of Environmental Management**

100 North Senate Avenue  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204  
(317) 232-8603  
Toll Free (800) 451-6027  
[www.idem.IN.gov](http://www.idem.IN.gov)

<b>Permittee:</b>	United States Steel Corporation One North Broadway Gary, IN 46402
<b>Existing Permit Information:</b>	Permit Number: IN0061077 Expiration Date: May 31, 2022
<b>Facility Contact:</b>	Mr. Cliff Barnett, Environmental Engineer (219) 888-4400   <a href="mailto:cliffbarnett@uss.com">cliffbarnett@uss.com</a>
<b>Facility Location:</b>	2301 Juice Road Gary, IN 46402 Lake County
<b>Receiving Stream:</b>	East Branch Grand Calumet River
<b>GLI/Non-GLI:</b>	GLI
<b>Proposed Permit Action:</b>	Modify
<b>Date Application Received:</b>	April 5, 2023
<b>Source Category</b>	NPDES Major – Industrial
<b>Permit Writer:</b>	Matt Warrenner, Permit Manager (317) 233-0798

## Table of Contents

<b>1.0 Introduction.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2.0 Facility description.....</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1 General .....	3
2.2 Outfall Locations.....	6
<b>3.0 PERMIT MODIFICATION.....</b>	<b>6</b>
3.1 Modification Request .....	6
3.2 IDEM's Proposed Modification .....	6
<b>3.4 Antidegradation</b> .....	<b>6</b>
3.5 Spill Response and Reporting Requirement .....	7
3.6 Permit Processing/Public Comment.....	7

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

---

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) received a request from United States Steel Corporation on April 5, 2023 to modify National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit IN0061077. The current five year permit was issued with an effective date of July 1, 2022 in accordance with 327 IAC 5-2-6(a).

The Permittee filed a Request for Adjudicatory Hearing, Petition for Administrative Review and Petition for Stay of Effectiveness of certain terms and conditions of the NPDES Permit with the Indiana Office of Environmental Adjudication on July 15, 2022. IDEM and United States Steel Corporation entered into settlement negotiations to resolve the petition, and this permit modification is the result of the negotiations.

## 2.0 FACILITY DESCRIPTION

---

### 2.1 General

UNITED STATES STEEL CORPORATION GRAND CALUMET RIVER SEDIMENT REMEDIATION PASSIVE DEWATERING FACILITY is classified under Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Code 3312-Steel Works Furnaces and Rolling Mills.

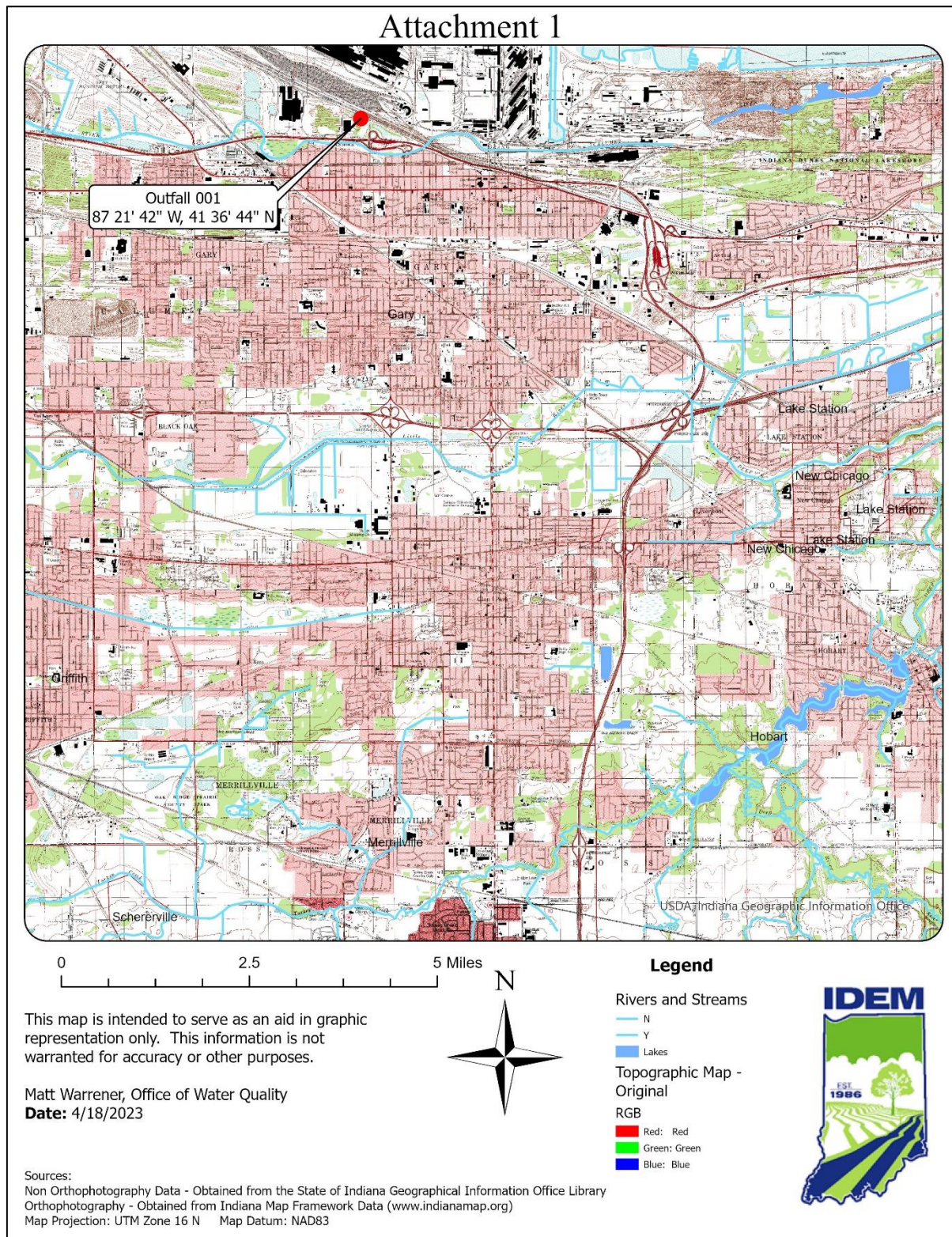
Per a sediment characterization study conducted by USS of the East Branch of the Calumet River in 1993, the analytical results indicated that the sediments of various sections for the river could be classified as hazardous or toxic. As a result, USS prepared and submitted a statement of work that included the work to be performed and the requirements and criteria to be met in order to remove sediment from the river adjacent to the USS property. This permit authorizes the discharge from the Grand Calumet River Sediment Remediation Passive Dewatering Facility (PDF). The PDF consists of two Corrective Action Management Unit (CAMU) impoundments which may process RCRA Corrective Action Remediation Material and sediments from dredging of the East Branch of the Grand Calumet River. Following treatment, wastewater can be discharged via Outfall 001. Outfall 001 flow under this permit is routed to Outfall 032 of NPDES Permit No. IN0000281 prior to discharge to the East Branch Grand Calumet River. Monitoring of Outfall 001 is conducted prior to commingling with other wastewaters.

The permittee installed an evaporative spray system to manage wastewater levels in the CAMU after August 2011 instead of the original treatment system associated with Outfall 001. Prior to the evaporative spray system, leachate and supernatant was discharged following treatment by a system consisting of neutralization, sand filtration, and carbon adsorption. With successful management of the wastewaters by the evaporative spray system, discharge through the outfall was suspended and the treatment equipment dismantled. However, the NPDES Permit was retained should future discharge be required. In 2019, it was determined that the evaporative spray system alone was insufficient to maintain water levels due to unusually high levels of accumulated stormwater. In order to resume discharge under the NPDES permit, a temporary treatment facility was constructed with skid mounted equipment. The system consisted of the

same treatment steps as the original system (neutralization, sand filtration, and carbon adsorption) but was only utilized to treat the accumulated supernatant present above the remediation waste. Leachate was not treated or discharged while the temporary treatment system was operational (August 2019 – November 2019). A map showing the location of the facility has been included as Figure 1.



**Figure 1: Facility Location/Site Map**



2301 Juice Road  
 Gary, Indiana 46402  
 Lake County

## **2.2 Outfall Locations**

Outfall 001	Latitude: 41° 36' 44" N Longitude: 87° 21' 42" W
-------------	---

In order to comply with Office policy on rounding, the GPS coordinates for Outfall 001 have been changed to round the 'seconds' portion of the measurement to the nearest whole number. However, the physical location of the outfall has not changed.

## **3.0 PERMIT MODIFICATION**

---

### **3.1 Modification Request**

The permittee requested that Footnote [11] in Part I.A of the permit be modified to reflect updated Summer and Winter monitoring periods. The proposed Summer monitoring period is July 1<sup>st</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup>, and the proposed Winter monitoring period is October 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>. This request was made on the basis that the 2012 and 2017 permits included the same Summer and Winter monitoring periods. The 2022 permit renewal deviated from this convention by including Summer and Winter monitoring periods of May 1<sup>st</sup> through November 30<sup>th</sup> and December 1<sup>st</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup>, respectively.

### **3.2 IDEM's Proposed Modification**

The proposed modification outlined above has been approved in accordance with the Partial Settlement Agreement which was signed on December 21, 2022. Footnote [11] in Part I.A. of the permit has been updated accordingly.

### **3.3 Antibacksliding**

Pursuant to 327 IAC 5-2-10(a)(11), unless an exception applies, a permit may not be renewed, reissued or modified to contain effluent limitations that are less stringent than the comparable effluent limitations in the previous permit. None of the limits included in this permit are less stringent than the comparable effluent limitations in the previous permit, therefore, backsliding is not an issue in accordance with 327 IAC 5-2-10(a)(11).

### **3.4 Antidegradation**

Indiana's Antidegradation Standards and Implementation procedures are outlined in 327 IAC 2-1.3. The antidegradation standards established by 327 IAC 2-1.3-3 apply to all surface waters of the state. The permittee is prohibited from undertaking any deliberate action that would result in a new or increased discharge of a bioaccumulative chemical of concern (BCC) or a new or increased permit limit for a regulated pollutant that is not a BCC unless information is submitted to the commissioner demonstrating that the proposed new or increased discharge will not cause a significant lowering of water quality, or an antidegradation demonstration submitted and approved in accordance 327 IAC 2-1.3-5 and 2-1.3-6.

The NPDES permit does not propose to establish a new or increased loading of a regulated pollutant; therefore, the Antidegradation Implementation Procedures in 327 IAC 2-1.3-5 and 2-1.3-6 do not apply to the permitted discharge.

### **3.5 Spill Response and Reporting Requirement**

Reporting requirements associated with the Spill Reporting, Containment, and Response requirements of 327 IAC 2-6.1 are included in Part II.B.2.(d), Part II.B.3.(c), and Part II.C.3. of the NPDES permit. Spills from the permitted facility meeting the definition of a spill under 327 IAC 2-6.1-4(15), the applicability requirements of 327 IAC 2-6.1-1, and the Reportable Spills requirements of 327 IAC 2-6.1-5 (other than those meeting an exclusion under 327 IAC 2-6.1-3 or the criteria outlined below) are subject to the Reporting Responsibilities of 327 IAC 2-6.1-7.

It should be noted that the reporting requirements of 327 IAC 2-6.1 do not apply to those discharges or exceedances that are under the jurisdiction of an applicable permit when the substance in question is covered by the permit and death or acute injury or illness to animals or humans does not occur. In order for a discharge or exceedance to be under the jurisdiction of this NPDES permit, the substance in question (a) must have been discharged in the normal course of operation from an outfall listed in this permit, and (b) must have been discharged from an outfall for which the permittee has authorization to discharge that substance.

### **3.6 Permit Processing/Public Comment**

Pursuant to IC 13-15-5-1, IDEM will publish the draft permit document online at <https://www.in.gov/idem/public-notices/>. Additional information on public participation can be found in the "Citizens' Guide to IDEM", available at <https://www.in.gov/idem/resources/citizens-guide-to-idem/>. A 30-day comment period is available to solicit input from interested parties, including the public.